DIA): (a) and (b). Air India in collaboration with the Government of India Tourism Department launched Tourism Promotion operation initially in Europe and subsequently extended it to U. K., U. S. A. Australia, West Asia and Far East.

Under the Scheme, Air India offices abroad jointly with the Government of India Tourism Offices undertake the following activities:

(a) Media Planning and Advertising India and its tourism attractions.

(b) Investing tour operators and selected travel trade personnel to India for familiarisation trips.

(c) Provide financial support to leading tour operators in foreign countries for printing and production of tour brochures on India.

(d) Inviting travel writers to India.

(e) Participating in joint promotions with leading Departmental Stores, Trade Shows and Travel Marts.

Marathi Programmes from Bombay Akashwani

3233. SHRI GOVIND RAO NIKAM: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether half–an–hour programme a week is broadcast in Marathi on F. M. band of Bombay Akashwani;

(b) of so, the reasons for allotting such a small period to Marathi language programmes;

(c) whether the Government propose to increase to period of broadcasting of Marathi language on this band; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS): (a) No, Sir. The total quantum of Marathi music programmes broadcast from FM channel of All India Radio, Bombay is two hours and ten minutes per week.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Export of Alloy Steel

3234. SHRI GOVINDRAO NIKAM: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) the average production of alloy steel in the country, during the last five years, year–wise;

(b) the steps proposed to be taken to export alloy steel; and

(c) if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) The total production of alloy steel (including stainless steel) semis for the last five years in respect of main producers and the Electric Arc Furnace (EAF) units is given below:

Qty. in '000 tonnes

Year	Quantity
1986-87	678
1987-88	675
1988-89	787
1989-90	901
1990-91	1028

(b) Some of the measure taken by the Government to facilitate alloy steel export are:

(i) Reduction in import duty on steel melting scrap from 35% to 10%.

(ii) Allowing import of modern equipment and technology for quality improvement and cost reduction of alloy steel preducers.

(iii) Duty free import of raw materials including alloying elements, for export production through advance licensing scheme as per the policy.

(iv) Conversion fo 60% export earning at market rate of foreign exchange, and

(v) Liberal clearances of export proposals.

(c) Does not arise.

[*English*]

Difference in Pay Scales of MTNL and DOT Employees

3235. SHRI GOVINDRAO NIKAM: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the difference in the pay scales and allowances being paid to the employees of the Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited and the employees of the Department of Telecommunications;

(b) whether resentment among the employees is increasing due to this disparity;

(c) if so, the steps being taken by the Government to resolve this issues;

(d) whether with the formation of a Public Sector Undertaking, the employees start demanding more pay scales and allowances and their demands are always accepted by the Government; and

(e) if so, the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to curb this tendency?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) There is no difference in pay scales and allowances of employees of Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited and Department of Telecommunications. However, Group 'C' and 'D' employees in M. T. N. L. who are on deemed deputation from Department of Telecommunications have been sanctioned an adhoc amount of RS. 100/– per month with effect from 1.9.1990 as their terms and conditions for absorption in MTNL have not been finalised so far. This payment will be adjusted towards dues to such employees when the said terms and conditions are finalised.

(b) and (c). Yes, Sir. This adhoc sanction did lead to resentment among the employees of Department of Telecom. Consequently, the Government constituted a high level Committee known as Athreya Committee, for a high level Committee know as Athreya Committee, for recommending the most appropriate organisational structure for the management of telecommunication services in the country. The report is under consideration of the Government.

(d) and (e). The pay packages for the public sector and Government employees are different. Some amount of disparity between the two at any given time exists.

Assistance to States for Development of Tourism

3236. SHRIMATI MALINI BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state: